



March 2010

## SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

### CHILD SAFETY – BIRTH TO FIVE

Children under the age of 5 are our most vulnerable assets, and it is the primary responsibility of parents and caretakers to make sure they are protected from harm. Despite children ages 2-5 gaining new skills and feeling increasingly independent, they still need careful guidance and close supervision.

Therefore to protect your child you must always be alert and remember the following:

- Birth - 6 Months; accidents often happen because:
  - Parents are unaware of what their baby can do;
  - Parents are tired, hungry, emotionally drained, or are having difficulties in their relationship.
- 6-12 Months:
  - Everything in reach also goes in baby's mouth
- 1-2 Years:
  - They explore everything;
  - They are curious and cannot yet learn from their mistakes.
- 2-4 Years:
  - They tend to forget rules when playing or excited;



Falling, drowning, poisoning, choking and burns are all common accidents that harm young children.

- They are now very quick, unpredictable and impulsive.
  - 5 Years or older:
    - They usually know what is dangerous but they don't always remember.
- In children over 1 year old, accidental injuries are a leading cause of death. One of the best ways to help your child learn about the dangers is by establishing and consistently enforcing rules and limits. Most young children need several reminders before they understand that a behavior or action is unsafe.
- The following resources provide a months' worth

of baby safety tips & a Nursery Equipment Safety Checklist:

- ✓ [Baby Safety Month - A Calendar of Tips](#)
- ✓ [Nursery Equipment Safety Checklist](#)

Finally, always remember to take care of yourself. You will have an easier time properly caring for your child if you are cared for.

#### Special Points of Interest

- ✓ [Health and Safety Birth to 2 years](#)
- ✓ [Health and Safety Age 2 to 5 Years](#)
- ✓ [Home - A Location for Injuries](#)
- ✓ [Child Safety Birth to 5](#)